to run the job, if it fails, it is resubmitted to the retry queue with an additional 10-minute wait time added until the next retry. In other words, jobs submitted to the retry queue will be retried first in 10 minutes, then 20 minutes, then 30 minutes, etc. all the wait up to 120 minutes. After the retry period hits 120 minutes it stays there. Thus, if a job that is retried after 120 minutes and fails, it will be retried in another 120 minutes. The 120-minute maximum delay is user configurable.

When the event server 235 is first started, a sweeper thread is started that looks through the metadata about time events and scheduled jobs. The sweeper thread looks for scheduled jobs that should have run in the past but didn't. This would include jobs that were queued up or in the retry queue when the event server 235 was stopped. When such a job is found it is retried using the five steps described above.

Although the portal system has been described in this specification by way of description, examples and drawings, it should be noted that various changes and modifications may be apparent to those skilled in the art. In particular, many modifications in the structure and operation of the hardware and software may be made in the implementation of the embodiments described above. Any such changes and modifications should be construed as being included within the scope of the inventors' original conception, unless they depart from the scope of the invention as defined by the claims.

CLAIMS

1. A computer system configured to communicate with at least one user through a network interface, wherein said at least one user communicates with the network interface through a computer network, the computer system comprising:

a service broker electrically connected to the network interface, the service broker controlling a level of access to the computer system by a user and adapted to receive a request from a user for a job report;

an authentication server electrically connected to the service broker, the authentication server configured to determine a level of access to be granted to a user based upon data stored therein;

a repository electrically connected to the service broker, the repository comprising a computer memory encoded with a plurality of objects including at least one output report corresponding to a job and at least one portal page corresponding to a user, wherein the portal page includes a display window and a dynamically updated portal object associated with an output report stored in the repository;

wherein the computer memory of the repository is further encoded with instructions for providing said at least one portal page to a corresponding user; and

a job server electrically connected to the service broker and to the repository, the job server configured to execute a job stored within the repository and produce an output report, the job server also configured to store the output report in the repository.

2. A method of processing a job in a computer system comprised of a service broker, a repository including computer memory, an authentication server, and a job server, the computer system configured for communication with at least one user through a network interface, the method comprising the steps of:

retrieving a personalized portal page corresponding to a user from the repository, wherein the personalized portal page includes a display window and at least one portal object, wherein the portal object includes a link corresponding to a job stored in the repository;

transmitting the personalized portal page to the user;

receiving a request from the user to execute a job stored in the repository;

retrieving the requested job from the repository;

dispatching the requested job for processing on a corresponding job server;

processing the requested job in the job server so as to produce an output report corresponding to the requested job;

converting the output report into a format readable by a browser program;

transmitting the portal page to the user with the converted output report displayed in the display window of the portal page.